

Kaye M. Breon
Principal



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Assistant Principal

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Web Site: <http://wfes.hcpss.org/>
School Hours: 9:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

January 14, 2022

Mark Your Calendars

Monday, January 17 Schools & Office Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Wed., January 19 3-Hour Early Dismissal (12:45pm)

Friday, January 21 End of 2nd Marking Period

Monday, January 24 Schools Closed for Students – Professional Work Day

Tuesday, January 25 Band Concert – 6:30 p.m. (Students Report at 6:00pm)

Monday, January 31 Report Cards Issued via Synergy – [Understanding the Elementary School Report Card](#)

Tuesday, February 1 Schools Closed for Students – Professional Learning Day

Wed., February 2 Vision & Hearing Screening for all Kindergarten, First Grade & New to MD Students

Wed., February 9 Vision & Hearing Rescreening

Thur., February 10 3-Hour Early Dismissal – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Friday, February 11 3-Hour Early Dismissal – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wed., February 16 Group & Individual Spring Portraits – More Information to Follow

Wed., February 16 PTA Fundraiser at Bushel and a Peck – More Details to Come

Mon., February 21 Schools & Offices Closed – Presidents' Day

School News

Hearing and Vision Screening by Howard County Health Department

On February 3, 2022 all Kindergarten, First grade, and students new to Maryland Public Schools will participate. If your child wears glasses, please make sure they are wearing them for the screening. If you would like your child exempted from this screening, email the school nurse at elizabeth_collora@hcpss.org.
Rescreening date will be February 9th.

From our Health Room - Daily COVID-19 Self-Screenings

All parents/guardians are to perform a [COVID-19 health check](#) every day before your student leaves home. Students are not to come to school if they are experiencing any [symptom\(s\) associated with COVID-19 or other communicable disease](#).

We thank you for keeping your children home when they are experiencing various illnesses. If you are unsure, please do not hesitate to contact the health room, by calling 410-313-5515 or email school nurse at Elizabeth.Collora@hcpss.org. If you want to test your child, please don't go to the ER unless the child is having difficulty breathing. [mobile covid testing sites](#)

MVMS Rising 6th Grade Information Night for Parents/Guardians

Tuesday, January 18th; 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Please join us *virtually* for an information session about the 6th grade program of studies at Mount View Middle School. Out of an abundance of caution due to Covid-19, there will not be an in-person option.

Google Meet Code: MVMS-Rising6

Important Note: In order to attend virtually, you must be signed in to your student's HCPSS account.

Visit <https://meet.google.com/> and enter the Code MVMS-Rising6 into the text box. If you are not signed in to your student's HCPSS account, you will not be able to access Google Meet. Please speak to your child ahead of time and write down their username and password.

Virtual Community Academy: Social Media-What Parents Need to Know

Saturday, January 29, 9-10:30 a.m., online

Participants in this virtual community academy will [learn about the most popular social media sites students are accessing](#) and effective practices for keeping children safe when using social media. Register online to receive an email with a link to the session. This program is part of a series of workshops sponsored by HCPSS and The Council of Elders.

Opting-In to Text Messages

Text Messaging

How can I opt-in to receiving text messages?

Text the work "YES" to 67587 from the wireless device you wish to receive texts on.

I received a text message that says if from SchoolMessenger. What does it mean?

An opt-in invitation message was sent by HCPSS using SchoolMessenger from 67587 and said:

Howard County Public Schools alerts. Reply Y for approx. 5 msgs/mo. Txt HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. See schoolmessenger.com/tm

To continue receiving text messages, reply with Y. If you do not reply, you will not receive any future text alerts from School Messenger, the HCPSS News service provider. Text alerts include weather-related closings and emergency information.

2022 Academic Calendar Updates

In order to provide school-based staff with additional time to address their increased workload and to support employee well-being, the Board of Education approved updates to the current [academic year calendar](#). Three-hour early dismissals now will take place on the following dates:

- February 16, 2022
- March 16, 2022
- April 27, 2022
- May 18, 2022

Update Your Family File

Please make certain your Family File is up-to-date. We will be using these to dismiss your student(s) on unexpected closing days. Do not wait until that day to make changes. We may have already printed information prior to you making changes. In addition, HCPSS utilizes Family File for parents/guardians to supply emergency information. If you haven't done so already, [please verify and/or update information for your child\(ren\)](#) for the 2021-22 school year.

Outdoor Dining and Outdoor Recess

When we are able, we will offer outdoor dining during the winter months. We will also have outdoor recess whenever we can. Please have your students wear proper winter weather attire (coats, hat, gloves, etc.) so they are prepared for outdoors. The following factors are considered in determining if recess is to be held outside:

- Temperature and humidity
- Wind chill
- Heat index and air quality
- Age of students
- Length of time outdoors
- Adequacy of the children's clothing
- Condition of the playground
- Falling precipitation (more than a sprinkle or mist)
- Thunder and lightning

Generally, it is assumed that students will be outside for recess when the temperature combined with the wind chill is not less than 20 degrees Fahrenheit or the heat index reading is less than 95. Children with certain health conditions may need special accommodations during extremely hot or cold weather. Parents of those children should provide medical documentation and may be consulted to determine if other arrangements are necessary.

Mask Policy

We continue to remind our students, regularly, about wearing their masks properly. We are reminding them that their mask should cover their nose and mouth. In addition, students must wear their mask on the school bus. Please check to be sure your child has a mask each day before leaving home. It is a good idea to place an extra mask in their backpack. We just want to keep everyone safe.

Early Dismissal Procedures

If you need to pick up your child early for an appointment that is close to the end of the school day, **please do so before 3:30pm**. After 3:30 pm, it is very difficult for our front office staff to get students while assisting with dismissal procedures. We appreciate your assistance with this! Thank you!

HCPSS Emergency Closing Notifications

In times of emergency/weather closings or delays, information is shared through our website, email, and text, Twitter and the HCPSS weather hotline. The school system's operating status can always be found on the [HCPSS Status website](#). [More information about Emergency closings and information sources](#) is provided online.

BSAP Saturday Math Academy Virtual Spring Program Registration

Registration opens Saturday, January 8, 9:00am until capacity is reached

Families of students in grades 3-12 are invited to register online for this virtual enrichment program, which will be held Saturdays, January 29 through March 12, 2022. Families can request enrollment by registering their child(ren) for the program in HCPSS Connect. Space is limited, and notification will be emailed to families whose registration request is accepted. [Additional program and registration information](#) is available online.

Community News

In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [Community News and Programs](#) website makes it easy for families to find educational and recreational resources, events and after-school programs beyond the school day by non-profit organizations."

Community organizations requesting their announcements be shared in school newsletters should visit community-programs.hcpss.org for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at publicinfo@hcpss.org.

Stay up-to-date on vaccine clinics, Covid testing, and more.

[Link to the Howard County Health Department](#)

Howard County Conservancy Summer Camp

[Click Here for Flier](#)

Mental Health Resources

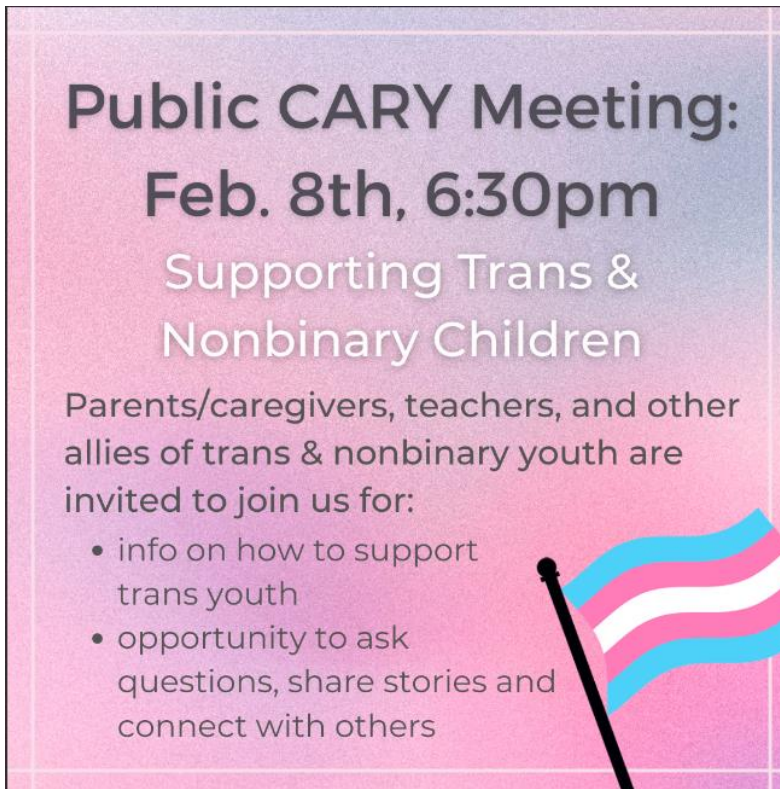
- [Foreign-Born Support Services/Bilingual Support Services](#) - Updated Resources
 - Bilingual Mental Health Professionals
 - [Asian American Health Initiative \(AAHI\) Mental Health Providers Youth](#)
 - [Chinese](#)
- [Grief & Loss](#) - New Resource

Community Allies of Rainbow Youth

CARY, Community Allies of Rainbow Youth in Howard County, is sponsoring a virtual program on understanding and supporting transgender and non-binary young people.

It will take place on Tuesday, February 8th at 6:30 p.m. Anyone can register using [this link](#).

CARY is an organization started by CHS parents that advocates to improve opportunities for LGBTQ+ young people.



Public CARY Meeting:
Feb. 8th, 6:30pm
Supporting Trans &
Nonbinary Children

Parents/caregivers, teachers, and other allies of trans & nonbinary youth are invited to join us for:

- info on how to support trans youth
- opportunity to ask questions, share stories and connect with others